(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) The total production of newsprint in the country during 1991-92 is estimated at 2.95 lakh MTs.

(b) The total requirement of newsprint in the country during 1991-93 is estimated at 5.60 lakh MTs.

(c) According to S.T.C. a total of 2.15 lakhs MTs (provisional figure) of newsprint valued at Rs. 332.00 crores has been improrted during 1991-92 (upto 15-2-1992).

(d) and (e) The question of taking steps will arise only if misuse of foreign exchange takes place after the scheme of decanalisation is introduced.

Sensitive border areas fed by Pak and Chinese TV

536. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what according to the study, if any, made by Government are the sensitive border areas which are fed by Pak and Chinese TV and their radio broadcasting net-work ;

(b) whether Government have considered the desirability of installing transmitters in these sensitive area linking them with national network ;

(c) if so, what is the decision taken by Government in this regard ; and

(d) the period likely to be taken in spreading TV network to these sensitive border areas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) ; (a) Pakistan TV transmissions and radio broadcasts are being received in parts of the border areas of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat. Regular Chinese TV reception is not received in India, whereas broadcasts by Chinese radio are being received in the border areas in the North-East alongwith other parts of the country.

(b) to (d) Yes Sir. 96 TV transmitters of varying power are at present functioning in the border districts of the country. 34 TV transmitters are at various stages of implementation in these border districts. These would become operational in phases and by 1995 about 86% of the population in the border districts of the country is expected to be brought under TV coverage. These transmitters would be linked to Delhi via satellite for relay of National service programmes.

Linking of Bhopal Television Centre with Satellite for better productive results

537. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhopal Televison Centre will be of a limited capacity range to relay the programme and will not be able to cover up the whole of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to link the State capital with other remote and underdeveloped areas of the State through T.V. network ; and

(c) whether Government would consider the desirability of linking Bhopal T.V. Centre with the Satellite for better T.V. communication of the State capital with other parts of State thereby helping in the economic development and progress of the State ?